

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

VA Palo Alto Health Care System

THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All applicants receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, non-disqualifying mental or physical disability, age (with authorized exceptions), sex, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.

Vacancy Annc No. 05-115(AG)		Opening Date 7/1/2005	Closing Date Open Until Filled	U.S. Citizenship Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (See notes below)
# Posns 1	Position Title Medical Instrument Technician (Hemodialysis) Part-time		PD Number 09893A	Pay Plan, Series, Grade GS-649-7
Service Nursing, Ambulatory Care/ Nephrology Unit			Promotion Potential None	Salary Range \$40,148 – 45,225 per annum
Duty Station Palo Alto, CA			Tour of Duty Regular and rotating shifts to include evening and Saturday shifts	
Work Schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input type="checkbox"/> Intermittent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part-time @ 20 hrs/wk		Subject to Bargaining Unit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes-Minimum posting: 15 work days <input type="checkbox"/> No-Minimum posting: 10 calendar days		Subject to Supervisory Probationary Period <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (First-time supervisors subject to 1 year)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permanent <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary NTE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Term NTE _____		Subject to Drug Testing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (See notes below)		Physical or Medical Examination Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (See notes below)
Travel and/or relocation expenses <input type="checkbox"/> are authorized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> are not authorized		Applicants currently serving under recruitment or relocation bonus service obligation must notify this office of the conditions of their agreement.		
		Relocation bonus <input type="checkbox"/> is authorized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not authorized	Recruitment bonus <input type="checkbox"/> is authorized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not authorized	
Area of Consideration - For information on application procedures, see section on 'HOW TO APPLY' <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC - All interested candidates.				
Point of Contact - Inquiries should be directed to the following individual at (650) 858-3951. Akiko Giordono, Human Resources Specialist				
REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION This office provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify this office. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.				
THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTS A DRUG-FREE ENVIRONMENT				

DUTIES: The incumbent is a well-rounded member of the dialysis team of VA Palo Alto Health Care System, Nursing Ambulatory Care Service. He/she performs duties involved in the direct care of patients with irreversible renal disease, the logistical and technical support of the dialysis unit, and the chronic as well as the acute equipment preventative maintenance programs. Duties include but are not limited to: evaluating the patient prior to dialysis and deciding on treatment plan for daily dialysis; initiating dialysis therapy, setting up, operating and monitoring the various equipment used for the treatment, administration of topical or sub-dermal anesthetics, albumin and/or saline, establishing blood flow rates, determining the fluid removal rate and profile, collecting blood specimens for lab work, providing emergency therapy as needed, monitoring the patient throughout the dialysis procedure, and the termination of the treatment. He/she provides dialysis to stable chronic patients as well as unstable, acutely ill patients, which requires independent decision-making due to the critically ill condition of the patient; participates in evaluation of new techniques and/or experimental equipment as part of patient care treatment; documents procedures, results and effect on patients; and writes up new, and/or complex guidelines for new techniques and instructs other technicians and/or staff in their implementation. Provides assistance to Self-Care Dialysis Training and/or Home Dialysis Training, instructing patients to prepare their artificial kidney and dialysis machine in order to participate in their own treatment; and helps write new procedures and techniques when necessary due to changing treatment style and equipment. Calibrates, operates, and performs assigned machine preventative maintenance on dialysis apparatus (e.g. Fresenius A2008H System) and operates laboratory machines such as conductivity and temperature, glucose, and volt/ohm meters. Keeps up with new machine maintenance programs and instructs other technicians and staff in newly learned procedures and give in-services when scheduled. Current CPR certification required.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Specialized Experience: One (1) year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-6 level in Federal service. Specialized experience is experience which has equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to satisfactorily perform the duties described above.

SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE: One (1) full year of graduate education in the field directly related to the specialization of hemodialysis. You must submit a copy of college transcript with your application.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: Appropriate credit will be given for voluntary participation in community, social service, and similar activities.

BASIS OF RATING: Your rating will be based on the quality of your experience as shown in your application and elements. Listed below are the knowledge, skills and abilities considered essential for successful performance in this position. These elements will be used to determine the highly qualified candidates to be referred to the selecting official. Provide, on a separate sheet of paper, a DETAILED description of your experience as related to the knowledge, skills and abilities listed below. Incomplete, vague, or contradictory information may affect your rating.

1. Basic knowledge in anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry physics as related to medical and safety needs of patients.
2. Ability to grasp mechanical concepts, fluid dynamics, cause and effect, instrumentation, hydraulics, etc., in order to operate and maintain dialysis apparatus and lab machines.
3. Ability to instruct and teach self-home dialysis patients and their attendants the full range of technical and mechanical techniques of the dialysis process.
4. Knowledge of and skill in Infection Control and isolation techniques.
5. Written and oral communication skill in order to document and teach new techniques and procedures.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- ◇ Funds Availability: The position being filled is subject to the availability of funds.
- ◇ Additional Vacancies: This announcement may be used to fill additional vacancies occurring within 90 days.
- ◇ U.S. Citizenship: If applicable, non-citizens may be appointed when no citizens are available in accordance with regulations issued by the Under Secretary for Health.
- ◇ Time-In-Grade Requirement: Candidates for advancement to General Schedule (GS) positions in the competitive service must have completed a minimum of 52 weeks at the next lower grade level (or equivalent) commensurate with the line of progression for this position.
- ◇ English Language Proficiency: If applicable, individuals appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by Title 38, United States Code (38 U.S.C.).
- ◇ TB Skin Screen Test: All applicants selected for employment with the VAPAHCS will be required to meet TB screening requirements before being placed into this position.
- ◇ Physical / Medical Standards: If applicable, candidates will be required to pass a physical examination.
- ◇ Drug Testing Position: All applicants tentatively selected for VA employment in a testing designated position are subject to random drug screen (urinalysis) for illegal drug use prior to appointment. Applicants who refuse to be tested will be denied employment with the VA.
- ◇ Direct Deposit / Electronic Funds Transfer: It is a policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs to require new employees to receive Federal wage and salary payment through Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer. On the first day of duty, new employees must bring their Social Security Card/Number, photographic identification card, and information regarding their financial institution.

HOW TO APPLY - All applicant, submit.

1. VA Form 10-2850c (Application for Associate Health Occupations) and Resume (optional).
2. OF-306 - Declaration of Federal Employment. You must complete this form to determine your acceptability for Federal employment.
3. College Transcript - If substituting education for experience, you must submit a copy of your college transcripts.
4. DD-214 - Military Discharge Paper indicating the period of service and the character of discharge. Veterans claiming veteran's preference must submit a copy.
5. SF-15 - Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference. If you are applying for 10-point veterans preference, you must submit this form and the required documentation specified on the reverse of the SF-15.
6. SF-50B - Notification of Personnel Action. Transfer/Reinstatement Eligibles must submit a copy of their latest/last SF-50B.
7. Performance Appraisal - Current/Former Federal employees must submit a copy of their most recent performance appraisal.
8. On a separate attachment(s), describe your work experience/education as it relates to each of the factors listed under BASIS OF RATING above.

To receive consideration, all application materials must be postmarked or received in this office by the closing date. Any information not submitted with your original application will not be considered. Failure to submit the requested material and response to the rating factors may result in a lower rating in the evaluation process.

All application materials will become the property of the Human Resources Management Service and will not be returned, used for other positions, or duplicated once submitted.

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. 1719, use of postage-paid government agency envelopes to file job applications is a violation of Federal law and regulation. Applications mailed in postage-paid government envelopes, sent by Federal agency special courier services or submitted through Federal fax machines will not be considered.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

Human Resources Management Service (05A)
VA Palo Alto Health Care System
3801 Miranda Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304